

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA

October 3, 2006

AMENDMENT TO ITEM NO. 21

On August 22, 2006, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and various departments to report back on the advisability of utilizing a new technology called Voice over Internet Protocol (*VoIP*) for the telephone system at the replacement LAC+USC Medical Center. In addition, the Board asked the Auditor-Controller to review the selection process for the technology and for the selection of Cisco architecture as the County wide standard for all future County-purchased *VoIP* telephone systems, both of which occurred in 2004 under the direction of the Chief Information Officer (CIO).

The CAO and CIO have since provided a report detailing the advantages of the *VoIP* technology and outlining the steps that will be taken to ensure that it will function with the reliability required in a critical hospital environment.

However, the Auditor-Controller has reported to the Board numerous problems with the selection process. First, the selection of *VoIP* as the new standard for new telephone systems in all new County buildings was not submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval as required by County Code. Second, the selection of Cisco

MOTION

Molina _____

Burke _____

Yaroslavsky _____

Knabe _____

Antonovich _____

as the standard for all systems to be leased or purchased was also not submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval as required by County Code. Finally, the Auditor-Controller expressed concern that the evaluation process conferred very little weight to the cost criteria. The Auditor concluded that greater consideration to cost could have altered the selection to a lower cost vendor. In the three hypothetical cost scenarios evaluated, Cisco provided cost estimates that ranged from 30 percent to nearly 70 percent more than the second place finisher. Given that the County will spend millions of dollars on telephone equipment in the near future, it is prudent to evaluate this issue to determine if this cost differential is justified.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the CAO with the assistance of the County Counsel and Auditor-Controller to evaluate and report to the Board within thirty days whether a new selection process should be conducted for the selection of a Countywide *VoIP* standard given the flaws in the previous selection as outlined by the Auditor-Controller, and given the potential for increased costs if the current selection remains in effect.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board adopt the recommendations outlined in the September 22, 2006 Auditor-Controller Report to assure proper procedures are followed, and instruct the relevant departments to provide the Board implementation report within thirty days.